THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Burnt out dead body of an Army Major was found in his room at Leh on 5-12-1993. A Court of Inquiry into the incident is in progress. Appropriate action will be taken depending upon the findings of the inquiry.

Proposal to purchase Hawk jet trainer

6959. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to buy British Aerospace Hawk advanced trainer jet aircrafts; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) The Government has approved acquisition of Advanced Jet Trainers for meeting the requirement of the IAF. Detailed proposals for supply of Alpha Jet of France and Hawk of UK, which are the two shortlisted aircraft, have been obtained and evaluated from technical angle.

Selection of advanced jet tariner

6960. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief of Air staff has stated in Bombay on the 17th March, 1994 that the selection of Advanced Jet Trainer for the Indian Air Force would take at least one year;

(b) which are the models now under consideration and their relative features;

(c) whether the offer of Russia to supply their latest AJT, called MIG-AT, is also under consideration; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) The Chief of Air Staff had stated that the entire induction process for Advanced Jet Trainer is likely to take about a year.

(b) French Alphajet and British Hawk have been shortlisted for acquisition as Advanced Jet Trainers.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The MIG-AT aircraft is still under development and its first flight is likely only in 1995.

मध्य प्रदेश में रक्षा भूमि

6961. **श्री शिवप्रसाद चनपुरिया** : क्या **प्रधान मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि मध्य प्रदेश के जबलपुर जिले के ग्राम बिलहरी, तिलहरी और छिबलाहा की 323.49 एकड़ भूमि सरकार के कब्जे में है ;

(ख) यह भूमि रक्षा विभाग को कब तथा किन-किन शर्तों के साथ हस्तान्तरित की गई थी ;

(ग) सरकार द्वारा उपरोक्त भूमि के अधिग्रहण का क्या उद्देश्य था ;

(घ) क्या यह भी सच है कि सरकार ने राज्य सरकार की पूर्व अनुमति के बिना उपरोक्त भूमि पर निर्माण कार्य किया है ;

(ङ) क्या सरकार उपरोक्त भूमि के बदले में जबलपुर छावनी क्षेत्र के किसानों को उस भूमि को स्थाई पट्टे प देने पर विचार करेगी जिस पर वे सैकड़ों वर्षों से खेती करते आ रहे हैं; और

(च) यदि नहीं, तो क्या रक्षा विभाग उपरोक्त भूमि राज्य सरकार को वापस करेगा ?

रक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मल्लिकार्जुन) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) और (ग) राज्य सरकार की 232.13 एकड़ भूमि 600/- रुपए वार्षिक किराए की दर से 1891 से सैन्य प्राधिकारियों के पास पट्टे पर है। इसके अलावा राज्य सरकार की 91.36 एकड़ अतिरिक्त भूमि रक्षा प्रयोजनों के लिए दिसम्बर, 1963 से किराए पर ली गई है। इस संबंध में किराया प्रभारों सहित निबंधन एवं शर्तें अभी राज्य सरकार द्वारा तय की जानी हैं।

(घ) इस भूमि का सक्रिय रूप से उपयोग किया जा रहा है इसलिए सेना प्राधिकारियों ने इस पर कतिपय स्थाई और अस्थाई निर्माण कर लिए हैं। सेना द्वारा किराए पर ली गई भूमि पर निर्माण करने के लिए राज्य सरकार की पूर्वानुमति लेने की कोई आवश्यकता नहीं है।

(ङ) और (च) सेना, उपर्युक्त भूमि का उन रक्षा प्रयोजनो के लिए लम्बे समय से सक्रिय रूप से उपयोग करती आ रही है जिनके लिए उसे लिया गया था, इसलिए किसानों को उसके स्थाई पट्टे दिए जाने अथवा उसे राज्य सरकार को वापस किए जाने का प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

Claims for repair of roads by Rajasthan

6962. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rajasthan Government has raised an amount of Rs. 564.64 lakhs as claims assistance for repair of roads damaged on account of army exercise in Western Rajasthan;

(b) if so, how much amount has been reimbursed to Rajasthan Government so far and by when the remaining amount is likely to be reimbursed by the Government of India; and

(c) whether the same is proposed to be cleared by 1994-95; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The claims were not found admissible and Government of Rajasthan were informed accordingly.

Countering the imbalance created by Pakistan

6963. SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI;
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Goverment's attention has been drawn to a large number of press reports and an interview with the Air Chief on Doordarshan in recent days to the effect that Pakistan has acquired arms and air superiority vis-a-vis India and if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to counter the imbalance posed by Pakistan in terms of its nuclear capability as well as the air superiority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) The Government is aware of the fact that Pakistan is acquiring weapons far beyond its legitimate requirements and takes appropriate steps to counter the situation arising from such acquisitions.

Scam in sale of IAF equipment

6964. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: SHRI O. P. KOHLI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Sale of IAF Equipment Advertisement smacks Scam" appearing in the 'Times of India' dated the 12th April, 1994 in the Bombay ediiton; and